Instructions for Form FTB 3538

Payment Voucher for Automatic Extension for Limited Partnerships, LLPs, and REMICs

General Information

California does not require the filing of written extensions. If a partnership cannot file Form 565, Partnership Return of Income, by the return's due date, the partnership is granted an automatic six month extension.

If the tax return is filed by the 15th day of the 10th month following the close of the taxable year (fiscal year) or by October 15, 2004 (calendar year), the extension will apply.

However, an extension of time to **file** the limited partnership, limited liability partnership (LLP), or real estate mortgage investment conduit (REMIC) return is **not** an extension of time to **pay** the \$800 annual tax.

Only use form FTB 3538 if:

- The limited partnership, LLP, or REMIC cannot file Form 565 by the due date; and
- Tax is owed for 2003.

If tax is not owed, there is nothing to file at this time. **Do not** complete or mail this voucher.

If tax is owed or you are paying the \$800 annual tax, complete the voucher below. Make your check or money order payable to "Franchise Tax Board." Mail the payment voucher along with the check or money order to the Franchise Tax Board by the 15th day of the 4th month following the close of the taxable year (fiscal year) or April 15, 2004 (calendar year), to avoid a late payment penalty.

How to Complete Form FTB 3538

Enter all the information requested on this form. To ensure the timely and proper application of this payment to the partnership's account, enter the federal employer identification number (FEIN) and the Secretary of State (SOS) file number (assigned upon registration with the SOS).

Note: If you lease a private mailbox (PMB) from a private business rather than a PO box from the United States Postal Service, include the box number in the field labeled "PMB no." in the address area.

Where to File

Detach and mail the voucher portion along with the payment to:
FRANCHISE TAX BOARD
PO BOX 942857
SACRAMENTO CA 94257-0651

Penalties and Interest

An extension of time to file a return is not an extension of time to pay the tax. If the entity fails to pay its total tax liability by the due date of the tax return, a late payment penalty and interest will be added to the tax due. To avoid late payment penalties and interest, 100% of the tax liability must be paid by the 15th day of the 4th month, following the close of the taxable year.

Internet Access

You can download, view, and print California tax forms and publications from our Website at www.ftb.ca.gov

Access other state agencies' websites through the State Agency Index on California's Website at www.ca.gov

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